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REMARKS

The Examiner has determined that the present application as filed contains claims directed to at least two groups of distinct inventions. In particular, the groups, as determined by the Examiner, are:

- I. Claims 1-21, drawn to a polishing pad, classified in class 451, subclass 526;
- II. Claims 22-26, drawn to a method of polishing, classified in class 438, subclass 692.

Applicants hereby elect to pursue claims in Group I (claims 1-21) in the present application. Accordingly, non-elected claims 22-26 are canceled without prejudice, and may be pursued in a divisional application. This election is made without traverse. An early action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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